

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

The following is a complete list of claims. The claims below replace all prior versions of the claims in the application. Please amend claims 1, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12, 16, 17, 20, 21 and 25; cancel claim 24; and add claims 26 – 27.

1. (Currently Amended) A mass storage device operable to store data and having an overall storage capacity, the mass storage device comprising including a panel on which a capacity indicator is positioned, and the capacity indicator being operable to display either a used storage capacity or a free storage capacity of the mass storage device, or being operable to display both free and used storage capacities of the mass storage device; and a capacity-update component operable to determine the storage capacity of the mass storage device and to provide the determined storage capacity to the capacity indicator to be displayed.
2. (Original) The mass storage device of claim 1 wherein the mass storage device comprises a removable mass storage device.
3. (Original) The mass storage device of claim 2 wherein the removable mass storage device comprises a removable hard disk.
4. (Original) The mass storage device of claim 1 wherein the capacity indicator comprises at least one light-emitting device.
5. (Currently Amended) The mass storage device of claim 4 wherein each light-emitting light emitting device comprises a light-emitting light emitting diode.
6. (Currently Amended) The mass storage device of claim 5 wherein the mass storage device includes a plurality of light-emitting light emitting diodes having a plurality of different colors.
7. (Original) The mass storage device of claim 1 wherein the capacity indicator comprises a liquid crystal display.
8. (Original) The mass storage device of claim 1 wherein the panel comprises a front panel of a housing containing electronics of the mass storage device.
9. (Original) The mass storage device of claim 1 wherein the mass storage device is adapted to receive capacity-update signals and wherein the capacity indicator is

operable to display the storage capacity or capacities responsive to the capacity-update signals.

10. (Currently Amended) A computer system, comprising:
 - computer circuitry for executing programs and storing data; and
 - a mass storage device coupled to the computer circuitry and being operable to store data and having an overall storage capacity, the mass storage device including a panel on which a capacity indicator is positioned, and the capacity indicator being operable to display either a used storage capacity or a free storage capacity of the mass storage device, or being operable to display both free and used storage capacities of the mass storage device; and a capacity-update component operable to determine the storage capacity of the mass storage device and to provide the determined storage capacity to the capacity indicator to be displayed.
11. (Currently Amended) The computer system of claim 10 ~~wherein the computer circuitry includes a capacity-update component operable to determine the desired storage capacity of the mass storage device and to provide the determined storage capacity to the mass storage device, and wherein the capacity indicator displays the desired storage capacity responsive to the determined storage capacity provided by the capacity-update component.~~ computer circuitry.
12. (Currently Amended) The computer system of claim 10 further comprising:
 - at least one input device coupled to the computer circuitry; and
 - at least one output device coupled to the computer circuitry.
13. (Original) The computer system of claim 10 wherein the mass storage device comprises a removable mass storage device.
14. (Original) The computer system of claim 13 wherein the removable mass storage device comprises a removable hard disk.
15. (Original) The computer system of claim 10 wherein the capacity indicator comprises at least one light-emitting device.
16. (Currently Amended) The computer system of claim 15 wherein each light-emitting light-emitting device comprises a light-emitting light-emitting diode.

17. (Currently Amended) The computer system of claim 16 wherein the mass storage device includes a plurality of light-emitting light-emitting-diodes having a plurality of different colors.
18. (Original) The computer system of claim 10 wherein the capacity indicator comprises a liquid crystal display.
19. (Original) The computer system of claim 10 wherein the panel comprises a front panel of a housing containing electronics of the mass storage device.
20. (Currently Amended) A method of indicating a storage capacity of a mass storage device, comprising:

disposing a capacity-update component in the mass storage device;
determining, with the capacity-update component, a storage capacity of the mass storage device; and
providing the determined storage capacity to a capacity indicator of the mass storage device; and
displaying an indication of the determined storage capacity.
21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20 wherein determining a storage capacity of the mass storage device comprises determining a used capacity of the mass storage device.
22. (Original) The method of claim 20 wherein displaying an indication of the determined capacity comprises displaying the determined capacity as a percentage of an overall storage capacity of the device.
23. (Original) The method of claim 20 wherein displaying an indication of the determined capacity comprises displaying different colors, each color corresponding to a portion of an overall storage capacity of the mass storage device.
24. (Cancelled)
25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20-24 wherein determining ~~external to the mass storage device~~ a storage capacity of the mass storage device comprises periodically determining the capacity.
26. (New) A mass storage drive for reading data from and writing data to a storage medium having an overall storage capacity, the drive comprising:

a capacity indicator operable to display at least one of the following:

a used storage capacity of the storage medium,

a free storage capacity of the storage medium, or

both, the free and the used storage capacities of the storage medium;

and

a panel on which the capacity indicator is positioned.

27. (New) A mass storage device operable to store data and having an overall storage capacity, the mass storage device comprising:

a capacity indicator observable while the mass storage device operates, and
operable to display at least one of the following:

a used storage capacity of the storage medium,

a free storage capacity of the storage medium, or

both, the free and the used storage capacities of the storage medium;

and

a panel on which the capacity indicator is positioned.